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The cover photograph shows Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar with the President of the 46th General Assembly, Samir S. Shihabi of Saudi Arabia, and Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, Ronald I. Spiers. (UN Photo 177995/ M. Grant)

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Nuclear non-strategic weapons withdrawals and strategic programme cancellations

Announcing a far-reaching policy development on 27 September US President Bush said the United States had unilaterally decided to withdraw all its ground-launched, short-range nuclear missiles and artillery to the United States where they and those already in storage will be destroyed.

At the same time, the United States would preserve an effective air-delivered nuclear capability in Europe which he said was essential to NATO's security.

The US would also withdraw all tactical nuclear weapons from its surface ships and attack submarines, as well as those nuclear weapons associated with its land-based naval aircraft. This would mean removing all nuclear Tomahawk cruise missiles from US ships and submarines, as well as nuclear bombs aboard aircraft carriers.

At the same time the intercontinental ballistic missiles scheduled to be eliminated under the START Treaty were to be immediately removed from alert status. Also, the development of the mobile-launched ICBM (MX) missile and the mobile parts of the small ICBM programme would be terminated. The SRAM short-range attack missile pro-gramme for strategic bombers is also to be cancelled.

He asked the Soviet Union to destroy its entire inventory of ground-launched theatre nuclear weapons, and also such theatre nuclear weapons as air-defence missiles, and nuclear land mines of the types the US no longer had .

Welcoming the announcement by the United States, Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar said it comprised a most substantial set of measures that would further the process of nuclear disarmament and further de-escalate the threat of nuclear war.

On 5 October, President Gorbachev announced that the Soviet Union would eliminate or withdraw all land- and sea-based short-range nuclear weapons.

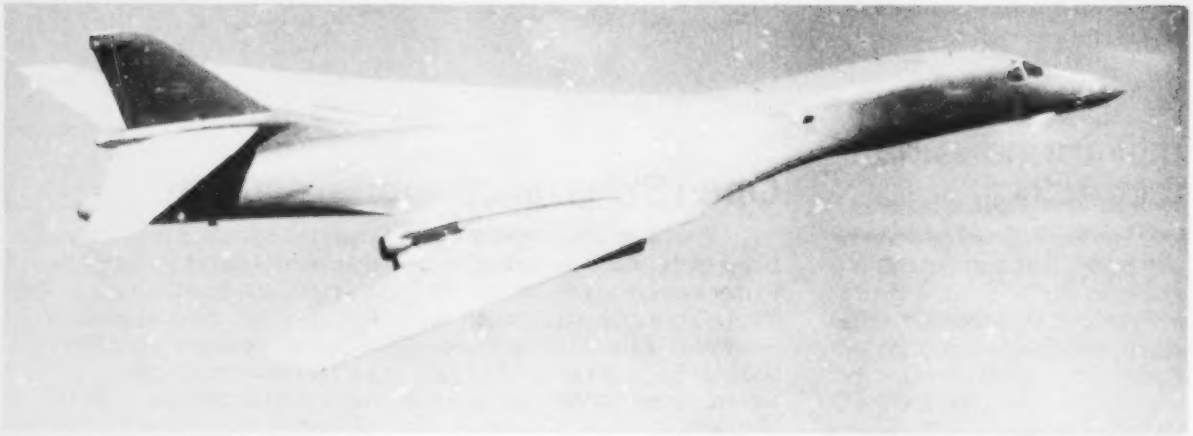
Mr. Gorbachev said that nuclear-tipped surface-to-air missiles would be withdrawn to bases where some would be destroyed. All nuclear artillery shells and nuclear warheads for short-range missiles and nuclear mines would be eliminated.

In addition, sea-based tactical nuclear weapons on surface ships and multi-purpose submarines and weapons from ground-based naval aviation units are to be stored at central sites and in part destroyed.

As regards strategic nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union would ensure that its heavy bombers are off alert and store the related nuclear weapons in military warehouses, halt production and modernization of rail-based ICBM launching vehicles and halt development of short-range nuclear missiles for its heavy bombers.

Mr. Gorbachev added that the President of the Russian Republic, Boris Yeltsin, and the leaders of other republics supported this unilateral decision.

Beyond plans for the elimination and withdrawal of nuclear weapons, Mr. Gorbachev announced that the Soviet Union was starting a one-year moratorium on test explosions of nuclear weapons. He also said that the Soviet Union would unilaterally reduce the number of its accountable strategic weapons from the 6,000 agreed under the START Treaty to 5,000.□



The US Air Force B-1B bomber is one of the long-range bombers which President Bush said was to be immediately taken off alert status (US Air Force photo/ Michael J. Haggerty).

Withdrawal, destruction and/or storage of tactical nuclear weapons

On 27 September, President Bush said that the United States would:	*On 5 October, President Gorbachev said that the Soviet Union would:*
Withdraw all ground-launched tactical and battlefield nuclear weapons, destroy all artillery shells and ground-based short-range ballistic missiles.	Eliminate all nuclear artillery shells and warheads that are on tactical missiles.
Remove sea-launched tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships and attack submarines, dismantling and destroying some and storing the rest in central areas.	Remove all tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships and from multipurpose submarines and to store them at central sites together with all nuclear weapons on ground-based naval planes.
Remove all nuclear weapons associated with land-based naval aircraft, dismantling and destroying some of the warheads and storing the rest in central areas.	Eliminate all nuclear mines and some of the nuclear warheads on anti-aircraft missiles, the rest to be withdrawn and stored at central bases.

For intercontinental strategic nuclear weapons

The United States would:	*The Soviet Union would:*
Remove all its strategic bombers from alert posture.	Keep heavy bombers offf combat alert and store the related nuclear weapons in military warehouses.
Remove from alert status all US ICBMs scheduled for deactivation under START.	Remove from alert status 503 ICBMs including 134 MIRVed ICBMs.
Stop development of the mobile MX ICBM and the mobile portion of the Midgetman ICBM programme.	Halt production and modernization of rail-based ICBM launching vehicles, keeping existing ones at permanent bases only and halting development of their small mobile ICBMs.
Cancel its programme to build a replacement for its nuclear short-range attack missiles on strategic bombers.	Halt development of its modified short-range nuclear missile for its heavy bombers.

READEX FICHE

Peaceful use of military industrial technology

An international conference with participants from over 30 countries was held in Beijing, China, from 22 to 26 October 1991, organized by the China Association for Peaceful Use of Military Industrial Technology (CAPUMIT) and the UN Centre for Science and Technology for Development (CSTD).

"International Cooperation in Peaceful Use of Military Industrial Technology" was addressed in papers by Chinese engineers and scientists describing China's experience converting from military to civilian production in electronics, aerospace, shipbuilding, ordinance and nuclear research.

Observations shared in the discussions included:

- With a shrinking global military industrial sector, conversion to civilian production is only one of the recourses taken by major military producers. Market economies, in particular, have closed plants, joined several plants or increased exports with some trying to enter the disarmament industry through development of verification techniques or weapon's disposal processes.

- National policies of converting from military to civilian production by themselves do not guarantee that programmes of military modernization will not be pursued.

- For those who are actually converting, the process has involved more than technical re-engineering. Cost effectiveness, economies of scale, import dependence and time factors are important considerations for success.

- National attempts at conversion are difficult to sustain in isolation from other important features of world economy such as access to global markets and transfer of technology.□

Open Skies discussions resume

The Open Skies negotiations between the NATO States and the former members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization that began in Ottawa in February 1990 and continued in Budapest in April that year, were resumed in Vienna in September 1991.

The purpose of the negotiations is to provide additional confidence that measures agreed on under that Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) Agreement of November 1990 will be complied with.

The agreement being sought would aim at short-notice unarmed surveillance flights over the territories of other participating States. This would allow for higher-resolution aerial surveillance at lower cost than is possible with satellites. It would also provide participating States without a satellite capability of their own with a means to independently monitor areas of particular interest or concern.

Last year Hungary and Romania signed a bilateral Open Skies agreement. It covers the two States' territory with the exception of specially designated hazardous air-space areas and provides that the inspected party may have its own flight monitors on board the inspection flights.

Although considerable progress was reported from the previous two rounds of talks last year, agreement had not yet, at that time, been possible about the extent of territory to be open for aerial surveillance, whose aircraft would be used for the surveillance flights and what monitoring equipment would be allowed on board.

Most of these difficulties seem to have been largely overcome at the Vienna negotiations, where the Soviet Union declared its willingness to allow overflights covering all of its territory, making an agreement seem possible in which all territory of all participating States would be open for aerial surveillance. This would include the territories of Canada and the United States.

At the same time, the participants appear to be ready to agree that aircraft can be used belonging to the State to be surveyed but that flight monitors may be included in the team of the inspecting party, and that high-tech infrared sensors to be operated by the inspecting team will be allowed on board.

An agreement by the twenty-two negotiating States is expected also to be opened for signature by the other fourteen States participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).□

Canadian and Hungarian Air Force officers at a joint 1990 Open Skies exercise.

Canada to cut its forces in Europe

On 17 September the Canadian Department of National Defence announced major cuts in the level of Canadian military forces in Europe. Defence Minister Marcel Masse said that by 1995 Canada would close its two bases in Germany and cut the number of its military personnel in Europe by more than 80%, from 6,600 to 1,100.

He said the decision was taken in response to the "dizzying speed" of changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and to respond to the needs of the Canadian economy. It is expected that more than $1 billion per year by these force reductions in Europe.

A senior official in the Department of Defence said that Canada remained firmly committed to collective defence through its continued membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Canadian defence analysts have interpreted the announcement to mean that Canada will further accentuate its focus on cooperation with the United States for the defence of North America. Commenting on this development John Lamb, Executive Director of the Arms Control Centre in Ottawa, said that "Canada must develop new forms of security cooperation with its neighbours and through the United Nations".□

Growing support for UN information programme on disarmament

Sixteen of the 80 Member States participating in the October 1991 Pledging Conference for the World Disarmament Campaign (WDC) pledged $153,888 to the WDC Voluntary Trust Fund. The total, which includes $20,814 earmarked for a television documentary on chemical weapons, is a significant increase over the comparable figure last year.

A number of the Member States making major pledges referred to the importance of pragmatic work on emerging issues such as non-proliferation, confidence and security-building, and arms transfers.

Underlining the need to place emphasis on a regional approach to disarmament, they commended the work of the three regional centres and expressed support for the continuation of intensive, informal seminars and meetings organized there for experts from various governmental and non-governmental sectors who would be in a position to influence the decision-making process.

In addition to the pledges to the information programme of the WDC, $34,569 was pledged for the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa at Lomé, $32,873 for the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America at Lima and $51,687 for the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia at Kathmandu. Also $655,936 was pledged for the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) including $171,429 in roubles for use in the Soviet Union and $56,180 in yuan for use in China.

With 23 countries making pledges to one or more of these disarmament programmes the total came to $701,344 in convertible currency plus $227,609 in roubles and yuan contributed to UNIDIR.

Speaking at the opening of the Pledging Conference, the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs stressed the monumental changes in the disarmament environment which offered possibilities and challenges that were unthinkable before. He said the Campaign had endeavoured to fulfil an evolving role of a UN global information programme focused on making available objective, factual and non-partisan disarmament information materials; organizing regional conferences and seminars to promote the search for common ground for future measurest; and cooperating with interested governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions to generate public understanding of multilateral action in the field of arms limitation and disarmament.□

Embargo on military equipment for Yugoslavia

On 25 September the Security Council acted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter for the purpose of establishing peace and stability in Yugoslavia. Chapter VII provides that the Council shall determine the existence of any threats to the peace and decide what measures should be taken. Decisions under Chapter VII are binding on Member States.

The Council decided that a general and complete embargo should be implemented by the member States on all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Yugoslavia until the Security Council decides otherwise after consultation between the Secretary-General and the Government of Yugoslavia.

It also called on all States to refrain from any action which might contribute to increasing tension or might impede or delay a peaceful and negotiated outcome to the conflict in Yugoslavia. No State should impede or delay an outcome which would permit all Yugoslavs to decide upon and to construct their future in peace.□

NATO examines its role

Meeting in Rome on 7 and 8 November, the heads of State and Government of the 16 member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) reviewed the role of the organization.

In their final communiqué which is the basis for this summary, they presented their position on the following issues:

- A new security architecture of interlocking institutions;
- A new strategic concept for the future role of the alliance;
- The European security identity and defence role;
- Relations with the Soviet Union and other Central and Eastern European countries;
- The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe;
- Arms control.

Stating that the challenges that will be faced in Europe cannot be addressed by one institution alone, the communiqué says the NATO member States are working towards a new architecture in which NATO, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the European Community, the Western European Union (WEU) and the Council of Europe complement each other.

Although prudence required keeping an overall strategic balance and the ability to meet any potential risks,the opportunity to achieve NATO's objectives by political means had never been greater.

Conventional forces are to be substantially reduced and given increased mobility to enable them to react to a wide range of contingencies. They will be organized for flexible build-up, when necessary, for crisis management as well as for defence. Multinational formations will play a greater role within the integrated military structure.

Members of the French and German delegations to the North Atlantic Council in Rome, showing French Foreign Minister R. Dumas, French President F. Mitterrand, German Foreign Minister, H-D Genscher and German Chancellor H. Kohl. (NATO photo)

Nuclear forces committed to NATO will be greatly reduced: the current NATO stockpile of sub-strategic weapons in Europe will be cut by roughly 80%.

The enhancement of the role and responsibility of the European members of NATO is to be an important basis for the transformation of the Alliance. The emergence and development of a European security identity and defence role and the transatlantic link are viewed as mutually reinforcing. The heads of State and Government welcomed the perspective of a reinforced role for WEU, both as the defence component in the process of European unification and as a means to strengthen the European pillar of NATO.

Stating that NATO could aid in fostering a sense of security and confidence in the Soviet Union and the other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, thereby strengthening their ability to fulfil their CSCE commitments, the heads of State undertook to develop a more institutional relationship on political and security issues.

Consequently, they invited the Foreign Ministers of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the USSR to join the NATO Foreign Ministers in December 1991 in Brussels to issue a joint political declaration to launch this new era of partnership. In particular, they proposed having annual meetings with the North Atlantic Council at ministerial level in a new North Atlantic Cooperation Council and periodic meetings with the North Atlantic Council at ambassadorial level. They also proposed regular meetings with NATO subordinate committees, including the Political and Economic Committees and the Military Committee and, under its direction, other NATO military authorities.

This process is intended to contribute to the aims of CSCE without prejudice to its competence and mechanisms. On CSCE itself the communiqué states that NATO members will intensify their efforts to enhance the CSCE's role for the new institutions envisaged and that structures must be consolidated and further developed to provide CSCE with means to help ensure full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris.

On arms control, the communiqué supported President Bush's initiative of 27 September and welcomed the response of President Gorbachev, particularly applauding their decisions to eliminate their nuclear warheads for ground-launched short-range weapons systems.

Stressing the paramount importance of the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, it called on all CFE signatories to promptly ratify and implement it. It also welcomed the resumption of the Open Skies negotiations and looked forward to agreement of an Open Skies regime as an important new element in greater openness and confidence-building in the military field.□

Readership Survey of Disarmament Publications

Please complete this questionnaire and send it to the United Nations, Room S-3100 New York, N.Y. 10017, USA

1. Which of the following disarmament publications have you seen or read within the last year? (Please give an answer for each.)

	Seen or Read	Not Seen
UN Disarmament Yearbook	☐	☐
Disarmament periodic review	☐	☐
Topical Papers	☐	☐
Study Series	☐	☐
Disarmament Newsletter	☐	☐
Disarmament Facts	☐	☐

For each publication that you have seen or read within the last year, please answer the following questions. (Leave the columns blank for publications you have not seen.)

	Disarmament Yearbook	*Disarmament* periodic review	*Topical Papers*	*Study Series*	*Disarmament Newsletter*	*Disarmament Facts*
2. How interesting do you find it						
Very interesting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Somewhat interesting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Not very interesting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. How useful is it for you						
Very useful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Somewhat useful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Not very useful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. When you have a copy, do you:						
Read most of it	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Read about half	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Read very little	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Disarmament Yearbook	*Disarmament periodic review*	*Topical Papers*	*Study Series*	*Disarmament Newsletter*	*Disarmament Facts*
5. Have you referred to it later or cited it as a reference in your writing?						
Frequently	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sometimes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Never	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Have you used it for background information?						
Frequently	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sometimes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Never	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. Have you used it for teaching?						
Frequently	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sometimes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Never	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Have you recommended it to others?						
Frequently	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sometimes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Never	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

For each publication that you have seen or read within the last year, please answer the question for it. (Please skip over the questions which relate to publications which you have not seen.)

9. What do you look for in the ***Disarmament Yearbook***?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

- ☐ Overview of activities relating to arms limitation and disarmament in a multilateral framework
- ☐ Official views of particular Member States on various issues
- ☐ Emerging trends and developments
- ☐ Historical perspective on issues before the United Nations

Data on:

- ☐ Sponsorship of resolutions
- ☐ Voting patterns
- ☐ Status of multilateral arms regulation and disarmament agreements

Texts of:

- ☐ General Assembly resolutions
- ☐ Treaties
- ☐ Concluding documents of special meetings and review conferences

10. What do you look for in the ***Disarmament* periodic review**?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

Signed articles:

- ☐ Discussion of security, arms limitation and disarmament from a range of multilateral perspectives
- ☐ Information and analysis from specific countries/regions
- ☐ Emerging trends and developments

Texts of:

- ☐ Treaties and agreements
- ☐ Major policy statements or declarations affecting security, arms limitation and disarmament

Other information:

- ☐ Summaries of recent books and articles
- ☐ Lists of disarmament publications by the UN and UNIDIR

11. What do you look for in the ***Disarmament Topical Papers***?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

- ☐ A broad perspective on a particular disarmament topic
- ☐ Emerging trends and developments on a particular topic
- ☐ Views of individual experts on issues relating to a given topic

12. What do you look for in the ***Study Series***?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

- ☐ Discussion of security, arms limitation and disarmament issues from a multilateral perspective
- ☐ Information and views from specific countries/regions
- ☐ Emerging trends and developments relating to the topic of the study

13. What do you look for in the ***Disarmament Newsletter***?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

- ☐ Summary news of recent developments relating to security, arms limitation and disarmament
- ☐ Emerging trends in security, arms limitation and disarmament
- ☐ Interviews with diplomats, scholars and NGO leaders
- ☐ News about non-governmental organizations and their views

14. What do you look for in the ***Disarmament Facts***?
(Please check as many possibilities as apply.)

- ☐ Facts on developments regarding a specific arms limitation and disarmament subject
- ☐ Emerging trends and developments
- ☐ Historical perspective on the issues covered

15. What is your affiliation?
(Please check only one category)

- ☐ Government agency or legislative body
- ☐ Academic/educational/research institution
- ☐ Non-governmental organization
- ☐ Other (please specify)_____
  _____

16. If you would like to receive one of the free publications offered in question 17, please put your name and mailing address here:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Incentive for early questionnaire returns:
The respondents who return the first 100 questionnaires will be sent a free copy of one of the publications below, normally available only as sales publications.

17. I would like a free copy of:

- ☐ The UN *Disarmament Yearbook*
- ☐ *Disarmament* periodic review
- ☐ **Study on the Economic and Social Consequences of the Arms Race and Military Expenditures**
- ☐ **Study on the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification**

Please send your completed questionnaire to:
Department for Disarmament Affairs
United Nations, Room S-3100
New York, NY, 10017, USA.

Biological Weapons Convention

The President of the Review Conference, Ambassador Roberto Garciá-Moritan (centre) with Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs Yasushi Akashi to his right and the Secretary-General of the Conference, Mr. Sammy Kum Buo, to his left.

Influenced by the vastly improved international political climate, and by a sense of urgency imposed by the recent Gulf conflict on the need to strengthen the Convention, the Third Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention was held in Geneva, from 9 to 27 September, with the participation of 78 States Parties (out of a current total of 118).

The BW Convention, which entered into force on 26 March 1975, was the first multilateral agreement that provided for actual disarmament as it calls on parties either to destroy or divert to peaceful purposes their biological weapons.

Five main areas of concern stood out in the Conference discussions: 1) the need for universal adherence to the Convention; 2) the need to strengthen the confidence-building measures (CBMs) agreed on by the 1986 Review Conference; 3) the lack of appropriate verification provisions in the Convention; 4) the need to balance the effective implementation of the Convention with unimpeded access to science and technology for peaceful purposes; and 5) the need for creating some type of institutional arrangement to oversee the implementation of the Convention.

States parties succeeded in adopting the Conference's Final Declaration by consensus. They called on non-parties to ratify or adhere to the Convention, and encouraged States Parties to persuade non-parties to accede. They also welcomed regional initiatives that would lead to wider accession.

The parties stressed the importance of greater transparency and openness to enhance the Convention. They strengthened the 1986 CBMs in particular by agreeing to three new measures, most notably one on declaring past activities in offensive and/or defensive biological research development programmes, and another one on declaring vaccine production facilities.

Especially significant was an agreement that an ad hoc group of governmental experts identify and examine potential verification measures from a scientific and technical standpoint, as some States parties had expressed strong doubts that the Biological Weapons Convention could be effectively verified. The ad hoc group will seek to evaluate potential verification measures, taking into account the broad range of types and quantities of microbial and other biological agents and toxins capable of being used in warfare whether they are naturally occurring or altered.

The Group, which will be chaired by Ambassador Tibor Tóth of Hungary, is to meet in Geneva, from 30 March to 10 April 1992 and is to complete its work before the end of 1993.

In reviewing Articles III and X which respectively prohibit transfers of biological warfare capabilities and promote exchanges for peaceful purposes, the Conference noted that the provisions of Article III should not be used to restrict or limit transfers for scientific, technological or the other peaceful purposes covered by Article X.

The Conference urged all States parties actively to promote international cooperation and exchange with other States parties in the peaceful uses of biotechnology. It urged the developed countries possessing such technology to promote technological transfer and international cooperation on an equal and non-discriminatory basis, in particular with the developing countries.

Agreement on creating an institutional arrangement which would oversee the implementation of the Convention eluded the Conference. The format of such a body, as well as the potential costs involved, weighed heavily in preventing consensus on this issue.

Ambassador Roberto Garciá-Moritan of Argentina presided over the Conference, while Ambassador Hendrik Wagenmakers of the Netherlands chaired the Committee of the Whole, Ambassador Tibor Tóth of Hungary chaired the Drafting Committee, and Ambassador Wilfred Lang of Austria chaired the Credentials Committee. Mr. Sammy Kum Buo, Senior Political Affairs Officer in the Department for Disarmament Affairs, was the Secretary-General of the Conference.

The Conference was also attended by six States which have signed but not ratified the Convention (Egypt, Indonesia, Morocco, Myanmar, Syrian Arab Republic and United Arab Emirates); three States which are neither parties nor signatories (Algeria, Israel and Oman); the United Nations and two of its specialized agencies; the League of Arab States and 11 non-governmental organizations and research institutes.□

Quotes from the 46th General Assembly

"I wish to reaffirm my country's firm commitment to eliminate all the weapons of mass destruction from the Latin American region".
Guido di Tella, Argentina

"The Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency are cornerstones of arms control. Revelations about Iraq's extensive clandestine nuclear program in violation of its NPT and safeguards obligations,...have highlighted the need for an even more effective and intrusive safeguards regime that can meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond".
Gareth Evans, Australia

"I believe that we must look beyond a system that only inhibits armed confrontations. I believe that we need a new definition of the concept of multilateral security, a definition that takes into account the new and varied threats to global peace and security".
Barbara McDougall, Canada

"China has stood for the complete prohibition and total destruction of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and for the banning of research into, and the development of, new weapons of mass destruction of any type. China has announced its decision in principle to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty".
Qian Qichen, China

"While treaties prepare for security, it is confidence which creates it. There is no real confidence without verification. ... Strict compliance with accords and monitoring are the keystones of disarmament".
Roland Dumas, France

"Since 1980 I have been urging that the world organization establish a register in which transfers of weapons should be recorded. This proposal, which is now being advocated by the European Community as a whole, should now at long last meet with broad support during this session of the General Assembly."
Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Germany

"The acceptability and success of any program for regional arms control depends on ensuring the security of the countries of each region *vis-á-vis* threats emanating from within and without their respective regions,as well as on a non-discriminatory approach towards the weapons and the countries to which the programme will apply".
Ali-Akbar Velayati, Iran

"The elimination of chemical weapons everywhere, and especially *in the Middle East, is of supreme* importance. This is why Israel has expressed its agreement to become party to the convention for the banning of chemical weapons..."
David Levy, Israel

"The most important issue in the wake of the Gulf crisis is that of strengthening efforts in the fields of international transfer of conventional weapons and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missiles".
Taro Nakayama, Japan

"Lithuania actively supports the establishment of a nuclear arms-free zone extending from the Nordic countries to the Black Sea in the South."
Anicetas Simutis, Lithuania

"The arms race and the irrational use of scarce resources that should be channeled to the tasks of development continue. Although regional conflicts have been freed from the bipolar stigma, their solution demands the presentation of options grounded on the local reality".
Fernando Solana, Mexico

"Events in the gulf region have once again made it unmistakably clear that more responsibility is needed in arms transfers. The European Council has identified common criteria on which national policies on arms exports are based. As action on a more global scale is no less needed, we will – together with others, including Japan – table a resolution in this Assembly seeking the international registration of arms transfers, with a view to promoting restraint by increasing transparency".
Hans van den Broek,Netherlands and European Community

"Given their destructive capacity, their threat to international peace and security, and the enormous human and financial drain which they constitute to all nations, especially the developing countries, the international community should begin, in earnest, to address the question of the arms race in conventional weapons in a constructive and non-discriminatory manner."
Ibrahim Badasmasi Babangida, Nigeria

"An essential part of the security problem is the arms culture which we have allowed to flourish. In too many countries we see military budgets of astonishing proportions... How can it be justified to allocate 10,15 or even higher percentages of state budgets to military spending... when the future of these countries lies not in arming but in educating a healthy population?"
Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway

"Global disarmament efforts should be supplemented by disarmament measures at the regional level. A regional approach, offers the most realistic prospect for meaningful progress towards disarmament since threat perceptions and security concerns vary from region to region".
Muhamhad Siddique Khan Kanju, Pakistan

"Papua New Guinea will continue to work with other member States of the South Pacific Forum in opposing nuclear testing and the dumping of nuclear and other toxic wastes in our region".
Utula Samana, Papua New Guinea

"To be reliable, the new international order must involve not only a check on the accumulation of arms. It must also stop proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of missile technology".
Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Poland

"In compliance with its policy of pursuing all efforts for peace, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has joined the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty and has abided by its provisions. It has also declared in various international fora its support for the efforts to ban all chemical and biological weapons".
Saud Al-Faisal, Saudi Arabia

"The Gulf conflict showed how peace can be undermined when a country acquires an arsenal way beyond the needs of self-defence... All States must apply the three principles of transparency, consultation and action.... Resistance to aggression, search for disarmament, the relief of suffering-these are all parts of the growing...tasks laid on the United Nations".
Douglas Hurd, United Kingdom

"The United Nations, in one of its finest moments, constructed a measured, principled, deliberate and courageous response to Saddam Hussein....The coalition effort established a model for the collective settlement of disputes....No one here can promise that today's borders will remain fixed for all time, but we must strive to ensure the peaceful, nego-tiated settlement of border disputes. ... Let me assure you, the United States has no intention of striving for a *pax americana*. However, we will remain engaged....we seek a *pax universalis*, built upon shared responsibilities and aspirations."
George Bush, United States of America

"There have been breakthroughs in two central areas of disarmament: conventional arms in Europe and strategic nuclear arms. Armaments are being reduced, although only recently it was held that an arms build-up guarantees national security.This proves, as President Bush pointed out in his address yesterday, that relations between the USSR and the United States, between the East and the West are no longer relations of adversaries. Such drastic cuts are only possible between partners who have recognized that they have shared security interests rather than conflicting ones."
Boris D. Pankin, USSR

Evidence of Iraqi nuclear weapons plans

In a press conference on 9 October, the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Hans Blix, said a recent team of inspectors in Iraq had uncovered some 45,000 pages of documents on Iraq's nuclear programme, including active plans for the production of Lithium 6 – a substance that could be used for increasing the yield of nuclear fission weapons and for fusion weapons (hydrogen bombs).

Mr. Blix said that the documents contained conclusive evidence that Iraq was "well-advanced in the production of a nuclear weapon" and that IAEA would continue to examine the full collection of documents found.□

IAEA safeguards discussed

Meeting at the IAEA General Conference in Vienna from 16 to 20 September, delegations from more than 90 countries reviewed a report from IAEA Director General Hans Blix on Iraq. In a subsequent resolution the Member States strongly condemned Iraq's non-compliance with its nuclear non-proliferation obligations, including its safeguards agreements with IAEA, and demanded that Iraq immediately and fully comply with all its nuclear non-proliferation obligations.

The actions of the General Conference in September followed that taken by the Board of Governors in July. It had declared Iraq in violation of its safeguards agreement, condemning the Government of Iraq for not submitting nuclear material and relevant facilities in its uranium enrichment programme to IAEA inspection, and expressing concern about "evident deception and obstruction of IAEA inspectors", who were denied access several times to sites they wished to inspect.

The Board action, which was based on a report by Director General Blix, marked the first time that a State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was condemned for concealing a programme of this nature. In accordance with its Statute, IAEA transmitted its conclusion to the United Nations Security Council.

The inspection of nuclear facilities in Iraq and the conclusions reached about the significance of the evidence found has heightened discussion about the need to strengthen existing safeguards.

Speaking to the 46th session of the UN General Assembly in October, Dr. Blix said there were several lessons to be learned from recent inspections in Iraq, including the crucial importance of intelligence information. If a State failed to declare nuclear installations – as Iraq did – the inspectorate must learn through other sources where to look. Other lessons included the importance of an "unequivocal right" of inspectors to go anywhere unimpeded and the value of "powerful support" by the Security Council.

These views coincide with those provided to the IAEA Board in July when Dr. Blix said that a high degree of assurance can be obtained that the Agency can uncover clandestine nuclear activities if three major conditions are fulfilled: that access is provided to relevant information, including that obtained through national technical means; that access to any sites, even at short notice, is an unequivocal right of the Agency; that access to the Security Council is available for backing and support that may be necessary to perform the inspection.□

Growing numbers of NPT parties

During 1991, the number of parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) increased from 141 to 146. A significant development in itself, this is seen as particularly important as four of the five additional parties are States on the continent of Africa and includes South Africa.

With the accession of Zambia, Tanzania, South Africa and Zimbabwe during the course of the year, the total number of States parties from Africa is now 46.

Lithuania is the only non-African State to become a party to the NPT during 1991. A number of other UN Member States have declared their intention to become parties, including Estonia and Latvia. Although Ukraine has made declarations that are ambiguous with regard to the question of possession of nuclear weapons stationed on Ukrainian territory, it has announced an intention to become a party to the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon State.

Earlier in 1991 the two declared nuclear-weapon States that are not already parties to the NPT declared their intentions to accede. On 3 June President François Mitterrand of France announced that France proposed to accede to the Treaty. The French Government has now sent the proposal to accede to the National Assembly for action in the coming months. On 10 August, Prime Minister Li Peng of China announced that his country had decided in principle to accede.

The Treaty, which entered into force on 5 March 1970, aims at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and for that purpose it provides for safeguards administered by IAEA to prevent diversion of nuclear material from peaceful weapons uses.□

Plans for monitoring and verification of Iraqi compliance with Security Council resolutions

On 11 October 1991 the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 715 (1991) approving plans for the future monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with Council resolutions 687 (1991) and 707 (1991). Two plans were submitted, one by the UN Secretary-General and one by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The plans approved by the Security Council give the United Nations Special Commission and IAEA the right to carry out inspections, at any time and without hindrance, on any site, facility, activity, material or other items in Iraq. This includes the right to undertake aerial overflight of any area, location, site or facility designated by the Special Commission.

Under the plan submitted by the Secretary-General, Iraq is obliged to provide, on a regular basis, full, complete, correct and timely information on activities, sites, facilities and material, both military and civilian, that might be used for purposes prohibited under resolutions 687 and 707.

The Secretary-General's plan relates to "ongoing monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with its unconditonal obligation not to use, retain, possess, develop, construct, or otherwise acquire any weapons or related items prohibited under paragraphs 8 and 9 of resolution 687 (1991)". This is the third stage of the work of the Special Commission (UNSCOM). It complements the gathering and assessment of information in Iraq and the disposal of the weapons of mass destruction and facilities found.

The plan calls for monitoring and verification at both military and civilian sites to verify that Iraq is not developing new capabilities regarding weapons of mass destruction materials that can be used for such weapons and ballistic missiles that can reach beyond 150 kms. It requires Iraq to accept unconditonally aerial overflight of any area, location, site or facility designated by the Special Commission, and to refrain from obstructing aerial overflights or taking concealment measures.

Under a section on "National implementation measures", Iraq is to prohibit all natural and legal persons under its jurisdiction or control from undertaking anywhere any activity prohibited by resolution 687 and 707, by any other related Council resolutions or by the plan. Iraq is to enact penal legislation to cover such activity and is to inform the Special Commission of legislative and administrative measures taken to this end within 30 days of the 11 October Security Council approval of the plan and thereafter as determined by the Special Commission.

The IAEA plan observes that Iraq's obligation under resolutions 687 and 707 are broader in scope than its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. As a result, the scope and intensity of verification and monotoring under the plan are much greater. This is needed to satisfy the requirements of the Council resolutions, and to create confidence that there is compliance with the restrictions imposed upon Iraq in the nuclear field.

The IAEA plan specifies that within 30 days of the approval of the plan, Iraq is required to provide IAEA with inventories of all nuclear materials in Iraq; all facilities where nuclear activities of any kind have been carried out; all isotopes in Iraq used for medical, agricultural or industrial applications; and all facilities which are provided with electricity exceeding 10 MW.

Iraq is also required to provide IAEA with complete design information for any planned nuclear facility 180 days before the start of construction, as well as advance information on proposed imports and exports of any nuclear materials and isotopes.□

The leader of the international nuclear inspection team with a United Nations interpreter in discussion with Iraqi army officers at Fallujah transportation depot in Western Baghdad.

NGO news items

The brief report below on activities of non-governmental organizations includes some of the events and programmes which have come to the attention of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs. The coverage does not imply any judgement by the United Nations.

Parliamentarians for Global Action held a forum at the United Nations on the theme Defining the New Sovereignty, October 30-31. Speakers included Giandomenico Picco; Jean-Claude Faby and Ambassador Alexander Borg-Olivier on The Environment and Sovereignty; Prof. Thomas Franck and Francesc Vendrell on Democracy and Sovereignty, and Larry Minear and B.G. Ramcharan on Human Rights, Humanitarian Intervention and Sovereignty. **Contact:** Parliamentarians for Global Action 211 East 43rd St. New York, N.Y. 10017, USA (Tel: 1 212 687 7755, Fax: 1 212 687 8409)

SANE/FREEZE Education Fund was the key organization responsible for an International Working Conference on the Arms Trade held on 1 and 2 November at The Riverside Church, 120th Street and Riverside Drive, New York. Among the topics addressed by speakers and participants from 29 countries were: The Global Arms Trade: Who Sells, Who Buys, and Why; The Arms Trade and Regional Conflicts; Reversing the Impact of the Arms Trade on Development, Debt, the Global Economy and the Environment. Working sessions dealt with economic conversion, international law, legislation, economic sanctions, drugs and weapons, and Gulf war damage assessment. **Contact:** SANE/FREEZE-International, 777 UN Plaza, New York, N.Y. USA. (Tel: 1 212 949 7033, Fax: 212 986 2910)

The Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in Lima, Perú held several meetings in relation to International Peace Day which is 17 September. These included two meetings held with the participation of NGOs that support the activities of the UN. Also on 26 September, the Centre, together with the Peruvian Centre of High Military Studies, organized a seminar on the current situation for armed forces, and that evening arranged a joint meeting with the Peruvian Institute of International Relations for diplomats accredited to Perú, Foreign Affairs Ministry officials, journalists and university students to discuss the current situation and peace and disarmament questions in the region. **Contact**: The Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, Mcal. Blas Cerdeña 450, San Isidro, Lima,Perú (Tel: 5114 8735 41 1310, Fax: 5114 4 8735 41 1318) .

The NGO Committee on Disarmament, the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Public Information hosted an NGO Forum on 31 October. Promoting Transparency in International Transfers of Conventional Arms was addressed by a panel of members of the UN Expert Group discussing their report. Looking Beyond the UN Arms Transfer Study was the topic of a session with Lee Feinstein, Michael Klare, Vincent Fisas Armengol and Maj Britt Theorin. **Contact**: NGO Committee on Disarmament, 777 UN Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017, USA (Tel: 1 212 687 5340)

Peace Initiatives held a conference in New Delhi on 30 August to launch its book on The New World Order, which has contributions from Nobel Peace laureates, heads of government and scholars from all parts of the world. It provides original multi-continental perspectives on the world beyond the cold war and the Gulf war and outlines an action plan and practical projects for the international community, the nation State, NGOs and individuals. Authors include Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Bishop Tutu, Mother Teresa, Oscar Arias, Georgi Arbatov, General Obasanjo, Rev. Bruce Kent and Fritjof Capra. **Contact**: Sundeep Waslekar, Coordinator, Peace Initiatives, B - 704 Montana, Lokhandwala complex, Andheri West, Bombay 400 058, India. (Tel: 91 22 6265672, Fax: 91 22 2624202)

Programme for Promoting Nuclear Non-Proliferation held a press conference at UN Headquarters to launch their new study entitled *Options and Opportunities: The NPT Extension Conference of 1995*. The study consists of an article by George Bunn and Charles N. Van Doren on the intention of the drafters of Article X.2, and an article by David A.V. Fischer analysing the nature of the 1995 Extension Conference for the Treaty in relationship to the provisions of Article X.2. **Contact:** Programme for Promoting Nuclear Non-Proliferation (PPNN), Mountbatten Centre for International Studies, Department of Politics, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, England. (Tel: 44 703 592522, Fax: 44 703 593533) or Ben Sanders, 240 East 27th Street, New York, NY 10016, USA.